

Message Text

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PAGE 01 REYKJA 00008 051925Z

46

ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07

FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 DLOS-04 L-03 AGR-10

ACDA-10 OES-05 IO-10 PM-04 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

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R 051505Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5911

INFO COMICEDEFOR

CINCLANT

CNO WASHDC

SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 0008

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS IC UK

SUBJECT: ICELAND-UK FISHERIES DISPUTE: LATEST TRAWL-CUTTING

1. AN ICELANDIC COAST GUARD SHIP CUT TRAWL WIRES FROM TWO BRITISH FISHING VESSELS NIGHT OF JANUARY 3 ABOUT 50 MILES EAST OF COUNTRY. CUTTINGS WERE FIRST SINCE DECEMBER 18 AND BROUGHT TOTAL TO SIXTEEN REPORTED BY COAST GUARD SINCE ICELAND-UK FISHERIES AGREEMENT RAN OUT NOVEMBER 13. THEY APPEAR TO HAVE OCCURRED FARTHER FROM SHORE THAN ANY PREVIOUS CLIPPING IN CURRENT COD WAR.

2. INCIDENT TOOK PLACE ON HEELS OF PUBLICATION HERE OF STATISTICS FROM UK AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES, AND FOOD MINISTRY INDICATING THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 REYKJA 00008 051925Z

BRITISH CATCH IN ICELAND'S CLAIMED WATERS DURING LAST SIX WEEKS OF

1975 WAS SOME 14 PERCENT GREATER THAN IN SAME PERIOD YEAR AGO. THIS DATA COULD PROVE EMBARRASSING TO GOI IN VIEW OF LATTER'S AVOWED GOAL OF INTERFERING WITH UK FISHING, AND COULD BE PARTIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR SATURDAY'S DOUBLE CUTTING.

3. FIRST ICELANDIC ACCOUNTS OF INCIDENT MADE NO MENTION OF BBC REPORT THAT COAST GUARD HAD USED NEW CUTTING TECHNIQUE THAT PRODUCED DANGEROUS BACKLASH EFFECT FROM TRAWL WIRES WHEN THEY SEPARATED. GOI HAS PREVIOUSLY MAINTAINED THAT CUTTING IS CARRIED OUT IN WAY THAT MINIMIZES DANGER TO TRAWLER CREWS.

4. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, IT WAS ANNOUNCED OVER WEEKEND THAT FISHING TRAWLER RECENTLY PURCHASED BY GOI TO REINFORCE COAST GUARD HAS NOW BEEN REFITTED AND ARMED, AND IS READY FOR USE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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